

TRUTH

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Triumvirate Going to Pieces

When Truth calls the triumvirate controlling the newspaper situation here thugs and blackguards it means exactly what it says. It is no figure of speech, but a cold fact. The acts of Cannon and Kearns in business and politically are as dishonorable as they can possibly be and morally they are utterly putrid. The trail of the wrecked homes and dishonored women left by Cannon extends from one end of the state to the other, and there is hardly a county jail in the state of which he has not been an inmate for crimes varying from assault to murder to stealing diamonds from a prostitute. We can substantiate our statements with names and dates if necessary. Yet this man poses as a leader of the people, a mentor in all that is good and pure and true. He went east a few days ago, and if he will stay in the east it will be a good thing for the west. That there has been a row among the triumvirate is a certainty. The relations between Cannon and Lippman have been very much strained for some time, and the chances are that the tie has been broken. One thing is very certain, that is if the "American" party is going to accomplish anything it will have to get leaders of a different calibre to Cannon, Kearns and Lippman. There is a movement on foot to get some respectable decent men to take hold of it. P. H. Lannan has been importuned to accept the chairmanship of the party, and also to take full charge of the Tribune and shape and dictate its policy. Mr. Lannan, however, declined, giving, it is said, as a reason for his declination that there was no room for a third party here, that national politics on the lines of the two big parties was too firmly established to be uprooted. It is also said that overtures have been made to Judge Goodwin to accept the editorship of the Tribune. An effort is also being made to interest O. J. Salisbury in the Tribune and the American party.

It is given out on the best of authority that ex-Senator Kearns is going to abandon Salt Lake as a place of residence, and that Los Angeles is the Mecca to which he has decided to flee from the disrepute and confusion which he has brought upon himself here.

AN OPEN LETTER TO JOSEPH LIPPMAN.

My Dear Joseph:—My attention has been called to several items of the variety known as "flings" in recent issues of your paper, the great Tribune, from the tone and tenor of which I infer that you and your subordinates are very desirous of engaging in personal controversies. If that inference is correct, my dear Joseph, I wish to notify you hereby that I, for one, am ready for the fray. But before you shall begin it, let me submit to you as a lawyer, the following propositions for your careful and prayerful consideration:

A bank once had a trusted employee whose character was stainless, whose reputation was excellent; but his salary was well known to be a meager one; and it was also well known that he had no capital of his own outside his small monthly salary. A certain lawyer who well knew these facts, encouraged that bank employee to play poker with him and to bet high upon the cards. At last the bank employee was purposely dealt a hand of such prominent strength as to arouse in his mind the conviction that it could not be beaten. The lawyer at the same time had been dealt by himself or by a pal, a hand that was superior to the one held by the bank employee and he encouraged the latter to bet high. The employee became excited by the luring aspect of making a big winning and placed upon the table about seven thousand dollars in money or checks belonging to the bank. The lawyer knew that the money did not, could not belong to the employee, and that it must necessarily belong to the bank. He knew that the employee was embezzling his employers' money, and encouraged him to do so. He knew that if the employee should lose that bet he would be an embezzler and a marked man the remainder of his life. And knowing all that, the lawyer sat and watched, and by his own acts encouraged the embezzlement, and at the "show down" won and raked in and kept for his own the embezzled money. The bank employee was arrested and sent to prison. The ac-

cessory both before and after the fact, the particeps criminis, the lawyer who encouraged and profited by the embezzlement, and who seduced that young man from the paths of rectitude and honor, went unwhipped of justice. The above facts, I understand, my dear Joseph, are in writing, and in the hands of a certain guaranty company. Now upon that statement of fact, my dear Joseph, I wish to ask you as a preliminary to the personal controversy which you seem to desire, if you do not as a lawyer regard that lawyer who encouraged and profited by that embezzlement as equally guilty with the employee who was punished and disgraced for his part in the crime. Honor bright, my dear Joseph, do you not think both as a lawyer and as a man, that the lawyer who encouraged and profited by that embezzlement deserves, say, about ten years in the penitentiary for his part in the embezzlement? And do you think, my dear Joseph, that the fact that that lawyer is a prominent office-holder and politician, should be permitted to shield him from the punishment which the states provide for accessories to such crimes? Do you? Honor bright, my dear Joseph, do you believe that such a creature as that particular lawyer is in a position where he could with any show of horse sense, engage in the pleasurable pastime of throwing stones at other men's glass houses? Do you?

Now, my dear Joseph, suppose for the sake of argument that you should be most intimately acquainted with, and a strong personal friend of that lawyer: Would you not feel it your duty to admonish him to "cut his cloth almighty straight" when it comes to a question of soliciting a personal controversy with anyone? I believe, my dear Joseph, that you may still have some influence over that fellow, and that with your well earned and justly celebrated reputation for that kind of "wisdom that passeth understanding," you may be able to give him a "pointer" or two for his own good. Will you do so, my dear Joseph? or will you let him run his reckless criminal course and end his career, as he deserves, in the Hotel de Arthur Pratt?

In concluding this letter, my dear Joseph, I will only add one other reflection and that is, that there are other matters to which I shall take

great pleasure in inviting your attention should you express a desire that this correspondence be continued; that, however, is a matter which I pass up to you.

Believe me, my dear Joseph,
Your Very Great Admirer,

CANNON THE SLANDERER.

Some people have expressed surprise at the capacity for villification and abuse exhibited by the editor-in-chief of the Knockers' organ. But to people who have kept in touch with national affairs here for the past ten years, it is nothing new.

Here are some facts of 1896: Cannon was elected U. S. Senator as a Republican. When delegates were chosen to the National Republican convention at St. Louis, Cannon and Kearns were among those honored by their party with that distinction. They bolted the convention which nominated as the party standard-bearer that magnificent representative of American patriotism and honor, Major Wm. McKinley.

Then they came home to Utah. Cannon had barely set foot in the state when he began the dissemination of the basest falsehoods against the private and public character of William McKinley. Again and again he declared that the latter, and also his campaign managers, were guilty of bribery; that they bought the votes of delegates to that convention. He named states in whose delegations he said votes had been purchased for cash.

This accusation of bribery against William McKinley he repeated in varying forms. He also denounced Major McKinley as a betrayer of the interests of the American people. He told how McKinley was the slave of corrupt monopolists; how he was hand-in-glove with tyrants and schemers who were plotting to rob the American people of their liberties.

Cannon has a "gift of gab" in extended form. He is a prolix mouther. Nothing that his tongue could utter in the way of slandering, villifying, abusing, misrepresenting William McKinley was left unuttered. He ran the full scale of falsehood and invective.

Tom Kearns and Joey Lippman were his henchmen then. They are his companions now. He is the mouther.

The Independent is the Phone That Talks